



All the glitters in not gold
“Couleur Locale” opens at Access Art Gallery

The unique work of artist Marian Abath is now on display at Access Art Gallery in Oranjestad, and the colorful, glittering glasswork is beautifully presented and offset by the paintings of Aruba by artist Joe Miklocjic that adorn the walls.

The new exhibition opened on Wednesday evening, June 27, and along with the paintings will be on display in the central rooms until July 19. The art of glasswork requires quite some training to master, and Marian went through an intensive course in Istanbul, Turkey after being captured by the medium while living in Greece. Here she learned theory and technique from a selection of internationally renowned glass artists. She admitted to a fascination and delight with the colors of glass and their individual properties when melted. The use of gravity and temperature can also be a factor in the completed work, and she revealed that the present collection on display has been very much “inspired by the nature of Aruba. Some of my work reflects the cactus all around us, the coral, shells, and colors of the sea and flora.” Using all these elements in the creation of a piece takes time, practice and likely great frustration, as one learns to understand the properties of the different kinds of glass.

Fetchingly displayed, her pieces are small sculptures, some strung with wire or silk rope, and quite reasonably priced. During the official opening, the artist gave a practical demonstration of the art, using the colored glass rods that she orders from Italy. The obvious aspect of the demonstration was that it is not an easy art to master, and takes great patience. The results of her artistry are quite charming, with a vast diversity of color and styles, producing solid beads of varying patterns, others that look like intensely colored corals, and delicately hollow pieces of blown glass.

Marian’s work is on display and available for purchase Monday through Saturday, from 10:00 AM until 8:00 PM, along with the paintings of Joe Miklocjic and other fine regional artists. She soon departs for Holland and another workshop to perfect her mastery of the medium, and plans to give classes here in Aruba upon her return. More of her work can be seen online at www.arubaglassceramics.com/, with an e-mail link for inquiries about her coming workshops, which include a one-day workshop for island visitors, allowing them to go home with their projects. For more information on the current show, contact Access Art Gallery at telephone #588-7837 or 588-7379.